

New Research: Lost Villages

NPS Alaska Affiliated Areas



Children of Makushin, late 19th century. Courtesy Granade Collection, University of Alaska Anchorage, Archives and Manuscripts Department

Synopsis:

Alaska Affiliated Areas is conducting new research on the villages of Attu, Biorka, Chernofski, Kashega and Makushin.

**For further information, please contact:
Annaliese Jacobs Bateman
Phone: (907) 644-3511
Anna_Jacobs-Bateman@nps.gov**

The National Park Service, Alaska Affiliated Areas program is conducting new research on the pre-World War II villages of Attu, Borka (Biorka), Chernofski, Kashega and Makushin. This project looks at social, political, and economic life in these Eastern and Western Aleutian villages before the catastrophic disruption of the War. Funded primarily by cultural project monies from the National Park Service, this research will highlight each village with archival photographs, maps, oral histories, and genealogies. In June 2004, the project received a generous grant from the Aleutian Pribilof Heritage Group to fund oral histories with former village residents, conducted by Ray Hudson, a longtime schoolteacher in Unalaska. The final product of the Lost Aleutian Villages project will be a book of approximately 250 pages. Preliminary findings were presented at the Alaska Historical Society conference in Kodiak in October, 2005, and the research will continue through 2006.

The Alaska Affiliated Areas program is committed to this project in part to carry out the enabling legislation of the Aleutian World War II National Historic Area in Unalaska and the research associated with the designation of several National Historic Landmarks in the Aleutians. The National Park Service hopes to conduct parallel research on the relocation camps in Southeast beginning in 2005.

If you have any questions or comments about this project, please contact the author, Annaliese Jacobs Bateman, at the number and email address below. Thank you.